

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 13, 14 and 15 without prejudice and substitute for corresponding pending claims the claims as shown rewritten below with amendments effected therein. Appendix II is attached hereto having marked versions of said claims with amendments indicated by brackets and underlining.

1. (Amended) A satellite printing machine for printing sheets, comprising:

a feed system;

an output system;

a single central counter-pressure cylinder disposed between said feed system and said output system;

at least four satellite printing groups for first side printing which are assigned to said counter-pressure cylinder in a rotational direction thereof between the feed system and the output system, each of said at least four satellite printing groups including an image plate carrying cylinder and a blanket carrying cylinder, the counter-pressure cylinder being in a form of a rubber blanket cylinder; and

at least one additional satellite printing group for at least single-color second side printing being assigned to said counter-pressure cylinder in the rotational direction thereof, behind the output cylinder and in front of the feed system, said at

least one additional satellite printing group including an image plate carrying cylinder for transferring ink to said counter-pressure cylinder.

2. (Amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein the counter-pressure cylinder is provided with a gripper unit which grabs a sheet for full-size printing on both sides of the sheet in a single gripper bite.

3. (Amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least four satellite printing groups include up to ten satellite printing groups for said first side printing, and said at least one additional satellite printing group includes up to ten satellite printing groups for said second side printing.

4. (Twice amended) A Satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein the counter-pressure cylinder has a periphery of 500 to 3000 mm.

5. (Twice amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least four satellite groups include five satellite printing groups arranged along an upper arc of a circle of the counter-pressure cylinder, said five satellite printing groups being mutually spaced at an angular distance of 35° to 45° to each other.

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(continued)

6. (Twice amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said second side printing is effected by a transfer of ink in an area between the feed system and a first one of said at least four satellite printing groups which follows in the rotational direction of the counter-pressure cylinder.

7. (Twice amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said first and second side printing occur simultaneously in an area of said at least four satellite printing groups which follows the feed system in the direction of rotation of the counter-pressure cylinder.

8. (Twice amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein the image plate carrying and blanket carrying cylinders of the at least four satellite printing groups are in synchronous drive connection with the counter-pressure cylinder and jointly are adjustable in a peripheral alignment relative to the counter-pressure cylinder.

9. (Twice amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, further comprising a drive with toothed-wheel gearing.

10. (Twice amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, further comprising a drive with at least one servomotor.

11. (Amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 8 or 9, wherein:

the counter-pressure cylinder includes a helical gear wheel;

the image plate carrying and blanket carrying cylinders of the at least four satellite printing groups are driven by helical gear wheels which mesh with said helical gear wheel of the counter-pressure cylinder;

said helical gear wheel is sectioned to form a gear wheel section which meshes with a remaining section of the helical gear wheel, said gear wheel section being movable by in a direction of an axis thereof.

12. (Twice amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein the feed system and the output system are disposed at essentially a same height above a base plane of the machine and define an approximately horizontal operating level.

16. (Twice amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 21, wherein said first and second satellite printing group sets are operable for at least one of flatbed, rotogravure, letterpress, silk-screen, xerographic and ink jet printing.

17. (Twice amended) A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein the printing groups for both said first and second side printing are arranged

one after the other, for successive printing without a requirement of intermediate drying.

[Please add the following claims.]

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(continued)

18. A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 5, wherein said angular distance is about 38° .

19. A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said feed system includes a feed cylinder.

20. A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said output system includes an output cylinder.

21. A satellite printing machine for printing sheets on first and second sides, comprising:

a feed system;

an output system;

a central counter-pressure cylinder disposed between said feed system and said output system;

a first satellite printing group set including at least four satellite printing groups for printing directly onto the first side of the sheets, said first set of satellite printing groups being cooperative with said central counter-pressure cylinder and arranged along a first arcuate portion of said central counter-pressure cylinder extending in a rotational direction thereof from the feed system to the output system; and

a second satellite printer group set including at least one satellite printing group for printing at least a single-color on the second side of the sheets, said second set of printing groups being cooperative with said central counter-pressure cylinder and arranged along a second arcuate portion of said central counter-pressure cylinder extending in a rotational direction thereof from the output system to the feed system, said at least one satellite printing group being operable to deposit ink onto said central counter-pressure cylinder, the ink then being transferred therefrom to the second side of the sheets while transferred over said first arcuate portion of said central counter-pressure cylinder.

22. A satellite printing machine as defined in claim 21, wherein:

each of said at least four satellite printing groups includes an image plate carrying cylinder and a blanket carrying cylinder;

each of said at least one satellite printing group includes an image plate carrying cylinder; and